Remedial steps were taken in the form of public education and training of doctors and health workers. After these remedial steps, the incidence of "Bhanamati" has come down and only a few sporadic cases are reported.

New drug policy

2734. SHRI KHAN GHUFRAN ZAHIDI :

SHRI MUNAVVAR HASAN :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Supreme Court had intervened on the issue of drug policy; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and by when Government propose to come out with a new drug policy?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government had announced the 'Pharmaceutical Policy 2002' in February, 2002. However, a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) filed in the High Court of Karnataka at Bangalore resulted in an order passed by the Hon'ble Court dated 12.11.02, which stopped the Government from implementing the price control regime of the Pharmaceutical Policy 2002. The Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals filed a Special Leave Petition (SLP) before the Supreme Court of India against the order of the Karnataka High Court, which has been admitted as SLP (C) No. 3668/2003. The matter is presently *sub-judice.*

Import policy of drugs

2735. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that import of intermediates do not require any registration under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act;

(b) the policy with regard to dual use of drugs which can be used as intermediates;

(c) whether IDMA has made any representation that such dual use drugs which can be used as intermediates be exempted from registration; and

(d) if so, the clarifications from DCGI in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) Yes, Sir. Intermediates, which are not covered within the definition of drugs under Section 3 (b) of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act and meant for manufacture of bulk drugs do not require Registration under the Notification No. GSR 604(E) dated 24-8-2001.

(b) A drug even if used as a raw material for the manufacture of other drugs requires registration under the new regulation. However, registration requirements are considered on the basis of the nature of the product.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The matter is under examination.

Spurious Ayurvedic and Unani Medicines

2736. SHRI AMAR SINGH :

SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that it is not Allopathic drugs alone that have spurious competition but spurious Homoeopathic, Ayurvedic and Unani medicines are also available in plenty;

(b) if so, the number of persons, dealing in production and distribution of spurious Homoeopathic, Ayurvedic and Unani medicines, arrested during the last two years; and

(c) the number of persons, who were involved in the smuggling of spurious drugs to various countries, arrested during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

AIDS control legislation

2737. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY :

SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government intend to enact a legislation to promote AIDS control in the country;